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21 December 1981

SOUTH AND EAST ASIA REPORT

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'ISI' DISSEMINATES JOINT INDIA-VENEZUELA COMMUNIQUE

BK061116 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0907 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] Indo-Venezuelan joint communique:

Joint talks were held at the ministerial level. The Indian delegation to these talks was led by Foreign Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao and the Venezuelan delegation by Minister of Foreign Relations Doctor Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco. The discussions, which were marked by cordiality and friendship, clearly brought out the similarity of views between the two countries, linked together by the common bond of a democratic tradition. They showed a common interest in the maintenance and strengthening of a peaceful international environment so that as developing countries they could dedicate their energies to the tasks of nation building and the socio-economic development of their peoples.

The two sides expressed concern at the deterioration in the international situation. They were against every form of interference in the internal affairs of other countries and came out in favour of the right of peoples of every nation and country to realise their aspirations for peace, social and economic justice and full freedom and independence to shape their own destinies.

In this context they attached great importance to the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. They were convinced that faithful adherence to these principles by nations in regulating their relations with other nations would provide the best guarantee for the maintenance of world peace and the strengthening of international cooperation. They were of the opinion that disputes between countries should be resolved through peaceful and direct negotiations without outside interference.

The two sides reaffirmed their full opposition to all forms of racial discrimination and more particularly to the practice of apartheid which offends human dignity and violates fundamental human rights.

The two sides took note of the continuing deterioration in the world economic situation due to the unjust relations existing between developed and developing countries. While they recognised the need to reaffirm the determination to strengthen solidarity and unity of purpose and action among the countries of the Group of 77 for closer cooperation among developing countries, at the same time they affirmed that cooperation among developing countries does not absolve developed

countries of their responsibilities within the framework of the North-South dialogue. The two sides recalled the contribution they had made to the deliberations of the Group of 77 and took satisfaction in the positive results of the high-level conference on economic cooperation among developing countries held in Venezuela in May 1981 and reiterated their firm determination to contribute actively to the early implementation of the programme of action of Caracas.

The two sides recognised that with the rapid advance in modern science, technology and communications, the world has come closer together and that it is desirable for nations to work together in a spirit of inter-dependence, which is inevitable between developed and developing countries. They expressed their view that global negotiations should [words indistinct]. [?Possibilities] for their further [expansion]. They [words indistinct] to study [words indistinct] of cooperation and development among enterprises of the two countries.

The two sides reviewed the excellent relations between Petroles de Venezuela and the Indian Oil Corporation, particularly in the field of petroleum imports by the latter and agreed to discuss enhanced supplies in the very near future.

CSO: 4220/7415

BRIEFS

OFFER FROM ROMANIA--Lucknow, 13 November--Romania has offered to supply the latest power technology to Uttar Pradesh to meet the state's energy shortfall. Disclosing this, Minister of State for Power Sunil Shastri told a news conference here today that Romania, a small country, had over 14,000 MW of installed capacity against UP's 3,200 MW. Romanian boilers were run on coal with as low heat value as 1,500 calories while in UP, coal of even 3,750 calories was considered too inferior for power generation. Mr Shastri also referred to Romania's "headless" turbines which could be run by water flow and there was no need to have waterfalls to rotate them. Mr Shastri, who had talks with the Romanian ambassador here yesterday, said that the state would have a shortfall of 1,500 MW after the state completed its Sixth Plan projects of 2,000 MW capacity. The state was, therefore, trying to tap external sources to set up power plants outside the Sixth Plan allocation. The state would approach the centre to allow it to avail itself of the Romanian offer which envisaged supply of equipment for the state's agricultural and horticultural produce. The Romanians were prepared to buy potatoes and apples. [Text] [BK220600 Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English 17 Nov 81 p 4]

CSO: 4220/7416

REPORTAGE ON EAST TIMOR SITUATION

Suharto Pressures Vatican

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 2 Nov 81 p 1

[Text] Victoria, 1 Nov--General Suharto is pressuring the Episcopal Conference in his country to advise the Vatican to integrate the East Timor Diocese in the Church of Indonesia. The accusation came from the "Action for World Development" movement.

Integration of the East Timor Diocese in the Church of Indonesia would amount to Vatican recognition of Indonesia's annexation of the former Portuguese colony, which would be an important political victory for the invaders. Vatican authorities declared last year that they considered East Timor to be an occupied country, and they would only recognize annexation if it were ratified by the people of East Timor or by the United Nations.

Monsignor Costa Lopes, current administrator of the Diocese of Dili, recently appealed to the United Nations to conduct a plebiscite. The prelate refuses to recognize the Indonesian occupation, declaring it is not accepted by the members of the local Catholic Church.

"Action for World Development" is sponsored by the World Council of Churches (Protestant) and the Australian Catholic Church.

FRETILIN Denunciation

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 5 Nov 81 p 8

[Text] East Timor Foreign Relations Minister Mario Alkatiri declared that "Indonesia's plan to offer itself as the host for the next conference of nonaligned countries calls for an intensification of diplomatic action by the Maubere people against such a proposal."

Alkatiri made the statement at the Mavalne airport in Maputo, speaking to reporters before he returned to New York, where he will take part in the proceedings of the UN General Assembly. His assertion is related to recent rumors that the Djakarta government is prepared for Baghdad, if Iraq is unable to host the summit because of the war with Iran.

On his return trip, the Maubere leader stopped over in Luanda, where he contacted Angolan authorities regarding the next summit conference of nonaligned nations. It is thought that some of the points raised there by Alkatiri were linked to the diplomatic struggle to frustrate the intentions of the Suharto regime.

Indonesia has been conducting a war of aggression against East Timor, illegally occupying the territory despite the condemnation of international bodies such as the United Nations.

Speaking to the reporters about Portugal's current moves to solve the problem of Indonesia's illegal occupation of East Timor, Alkatiri said that, at bottom, the Portuguese position has not changed, it is "limited to declarations of intent," unaccompanied by specific action capable of solving the problem.

6362

CSO: 4724/81

FOREIGN INVESTMENT NEEDED FOR STRATEGIC AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 21 Oct 81 pp 1, 9

[Article: "BKPM Chairman Notes Dilemma in the Development of the Agricultural Sector"]

[Excerpts] The government faces a dilemma in developing the agricultural sector. On the one hand the government hopes to increase the role of foreign capital investment in the agricultural sector by offering first priority to these investors. On the other hand foreign capital is very difficult to obtain. Foreign investors are not attracted to the agricultural sector.

Eng Suhartoyo, chairman of BKEM (Capital Investment Coordination Agency), noted this dilemma in a seminar on agricultural economics held in the YTKI (Indonesian Manpower Institute) on Tuesday [20 October]. The seminar, which had as its theme "Foreign Capital Investment in Indonesian Agricultural Development," was handled by PERHEIP (Indonesian Agricultural Economics Association) and YTKI.

Eng Suhartoyo added, the agricultural sector plays a very important role in Indonesia. From 1969 to 1979 some 32 to 47 percent of the Indonesian gross domestic product was produced by the agricultural sector. The agricultural sector also employs the most manpower. In 1976 some 62 percent of all manpower was employed by the agricultural sector. Of this total, 97.5 percent were employed in the rural areas so the agricultural sectors really supported the equalization of opportunities.

Capital investment, both PMA [foreign capital investment] and PMDN [domestic capital investment], opened up jobs for about 1.8 million persons, and investment in the agricultural sector created 41.3 percent of the job opportunities for Indonesian workers, or two-fifths of all jobs that were created. Keeping this in mind, the agricultural sector, of course, must be developed with employment as the primary benefit to be achieved. Further, agricultural development that is oriented toward export is greatly expected to lessen Indonesia's dependence on oil exports.

"Although the agricultural sector is greatly needed, from 1969 to 1979 there was smaller growth in the agricultural contribution to the gross domestic product. It was only 3.5 percent. The growth rate for the industrial sector was 12.4 percent and for construction, 17.3 percent.

Eng Suhartojo added that agricultural projects are less attractive to investors because they require a bigger investment and it takes longer to obtain a return on the investment.

Eng Suhartojo cited the example of the estates subsector that includes production of sugar, palm oil, rubber, coffee, coconuts, and chocolate. To achieve a certain rate of growth in this sector by the end of PELITA IV [fourth five-year development plan], an investment of \$16.7 billion (about 10.57 trillion rupiah) are needed to be carried out over a 7 or 8 year period. To increase production, acreage must be expanded, "recruiting" of persons skilled in marketing is needed, and infrastructure such as bridges, ports, and so on must be constructed.

For the estates sector only about 35 percent of the needed investment can be obtained from domestic sources (excluding government reserve funds) while two alternative sources could cover the remaining 65 percent. First, it could be obtained wholly from government reserve funds and, second, from government reserves augmented by foreign capital investment.

There appears to be a problem in using the first alternative, for priority for the use of government reserves is given to food production. Therefore foreign capital investment is required solely for the estates subsector but is still not required for the overall agricultural sector.

It is very difficult to obtain foreign capital. For example, for the period 1967 to 1981 the agricultural sector was only able to attract a cumulative total of some \$994.9 million and only 33.8 percent of this, or 336.8 million dollars, was committed.

This shows that while little was realized, there appears to be an adequate interest by foreign investors in the agricultural sector but it was difficult to carry it through. The planned \$994.9 million for the agricultural sector amounted to only 10.8 percent of all foreign investment agreed upon by the government. For the industrial sector, planned foreign investment amounted to 65.3 percent. The realization of foreign capital for the agricultural sector was 33.8 percent of that planned. This is lower than the total realization of such investment which amounted to 39.9 percent of that planned. These figures indicate a lack of interest on the part of foreign investors in the agricultural sector which lags far behind the industrial sector. The same is true for PMDN for the agricultural sector.

P.S. Siswoputranto, the keynote speaker, said investors, particularly foreign investors, show little interest in the agricultural sector because of the poor facilities offered. Only certain agricultural fields that are rapidly productive, such as forestry, attract foreign capital because projects which have been producing for a long time such as palm oil and rubber estates, are not offered better facilities.

In addition, no marketing is available which makes these projects less attractive. Disruptive government regulations also reduce interest. For instance, an export ban was placed on palm oil suddenly and it had to be sold domestically at a

fixed price. This clearly does not attract investment. Often there is no planning prior to the issuance of government regulations.

The need to include the participation of the economically weak group or cooperatives also can reduce investor interest. For instance, a private estate which has just begun to get on its feet suddenly is required to include the participation of the economically weak group or cooperatives in a nucleus estate. This can weigh heavily on the private estate.

Former Estates Minister Drs Frans Seda clarified that if given enough incentives and if it is managed well, the agricultural sector can be the most strategic sector in facing Indonesia's economic challenges and dilemmas in the 10-year period of the eighties.

The national challenge meant here is that the real revenue from oil will drop both as a source of domestic tax revenue as well as a source of foreign exchange. There is great pressure to create jobs to support the increasing population pressure. Development is spreading to the regions and transmigration programs are increasingly being carried out.

The world economic recession, he said, will have little affect on Indonesia's economy, which, for the most part, is still based on the agricultural sector because demand for agricultural products to be used as basic materials for industry remains high and must be increased in the coming period. "It is important that we use this opportunity wisely," he said.

6804

CSO: 42 3/13

INDONESIA

CONTROL OF CORRUPTION DISCUSSED

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 16 Oct 81 pp 1, 12

[Article: "KOPKAMTIB Commander/Central OPSTIB Chairman Says There Are Five Potential Sources of Corruption and Devious Activities"]

[Excerpts] On Thursday [15 October] Admiral Sudomo, KOPKAMTIB [Command for the Restoration of Security and Order] commander concurrently chairman of Central OPSTIB [Operation Order], said there are five potential sources for corruption and devious activities. Accompanied by J. B. Sumarlin, minister for PAN [Reform of the State Apparatus], Sudomo said they are (1) construction projects, (2) the supply of commodities, (3) customs duties, (4) taxation, and (5) the granting of business licenses, bank credit facilities and similar activities.

According to Sudomo, for construction projects and commodity supply, corruption and devious activities involve prices, quality of the items, and commissions. With regard to customs duties they are concerned with the entry of items into the country and smuggling by administrative means. For taxation, corruption and devious activities occur in the determination of the amount of tax to be paid while in granting business licenses and banking credit facilities, corruption and devious activities are related to commissions and favors in the form of bribes.

Sudomo added that corruption and devious activities require the interaction of two individuals, namely, the public and officials. For instance, in regard to customs duties, the individual negotiates so that the duty on his item is settled speedily. This means that these private individuals offer opportunities for corruption.

OPSTIB works conceptually, Sudomo said, adhering strictly to two basics. First, functional control that must be carried out by the respective agencies and departments in the current government structure. Second, by preventive and repressive means.

Preventive means are those which lessen or eliminate the factors that provide opportunity for corruption and devious activities. Repressive means are systematic measures that are followed by administrative sanctions and legal steps.

Earlier Minister Sumarlin had said that control is accomplished in two ways. First by internal control in departments by inspectors general. Second, control by the KOPKAMTIB commander who handles the big and strategic cases.

When asked, "Are the senior officials who provide the supervision clean?" neither Sumarlin nor Sudomo could answer the question positively. Sumarlin merely said that it was demanded of all officials, particularly the leadership, that they not be involved in such activities and that they set an example for their subordinates.

While Sudomo asked newsmen to point out who was not clean. "Please point out who they are and as of today I will look into this matter," he said.

Earlier in his statement Sumarlin had said that from June 1977 to August 1981 those in control in department circles and in other agencies, with the aid of the OPSTIB Team, had handled 5,768 cases that involved 8,660 civil servants. Steps have been taken against all of them. Administrative measures, beginning with demotions and ending with discharges, were taken against 7,573 while 847 cases were submitted to the courts and other measures were taken against 240 more cases.

By handling these cases, 110 billion rupiah of state money has been reimbursed and 56 billion rupiah are in the process of being reimbursed.

When asked, "Measures have been taken against which group of individuals?" Sumarlin said measures were taken against various groups. There is one group; there are two groups; there are directors and regents also. "Let's leave the subject of 'small fish' and 'big fish' alone."

KOPKAMTIB Commander Sudomo then added that from June 1977 to August 1981 OPSTIB had received 69,600 accusatory letters from the public. Of this total, 11,835 provided information that could be used for further investigation. Of these, 856 related to corruption, 1,360 related to misuse of authority and position, 2,284 related to bribery, and 6,744 to special matters concerning land, housing, and so on.

Of this total, Sudomo said, Central OPSTIB had handled 90 cases involving 265 persons. The number of persons involved is small because Central OPSTIB only handles the really big cases.

6804

CSO: 4213/13

INDONESIA

WORKERS FIRED BECAUSE OF UNION TIES

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 20 Oct 81 p 2

[Article: "FBSI General Chairman Agus Sudono Says Shadow of Being Fired Hangs Over Workers Who Are Active in Labor Unions"]

[Excerpts] Some businessmen still arbitrarily use PHK (severance) or otherwise put pressure on their workers. Those who actively participate in the labor union movement (FBSI [All-Indonesia Labor Federation]), in particular, are targeted for discharge by certain businessmen. Their aim is to kill the incipient FBSI before it has a chance to be established.

Agus Sudono, general chairman of the FBSI Central Executive Committee, made this statement to newsmen at the opening of the "International Metal workers Labor Union Leadership Training for the Southeast Asia Region" on Monday [19 October].

PHK has been used arbitrarily against workers including those employed by PT Medifarma in Cimanggis (Bogor Regency). Four managers of the Chemist and Pharmacy Labor Union (SBPK/FBSI) in the PMA [foreign investment project] company that makes medicines were discharged by their employer in August.

Tens of PT Amalgam workers in Pluit (North Jakarta) were also discharged by the owner of that vehicle assembly plant because they were active managers or members of the local Assembling, Metal Working, and Machining Labor Union (SB AMP/FBSI).

While four employees of the Yamaha motorcycle plant, PT KSU, in Pulogadung (East Jakarta) were also discharged because they were active in the administration of the local SB AMP/FBSI. The P4D and P4P (Committees for the Settlement of Regional and Central Labor Disputes) ruled in favor of the four workers and they had to be reinstated. The same decisions were handed down by the NAKERTRANSKOP [manpower, transmigration, and cooperatives] minister and the court of first instance in East Jakarta.

Nevertheless the director of PT KSU continued to be obstructive and refused to reemploy the four workers whom he had discharged.

It is lawful to establish an FBSI labor union, Agus Sudono said, and that right is guaranteed by laws in effect including the GBHN (main lines of national policy).

Last August Admiral Sudomo, KOPKAMTIB [Command for the Restoration of Security and Order] commander, also stressed that businessmen should not place obstacles in the way of forming labor unions in their companies.

The FBSI general chairman strongly affirmed, "If some businessmen take this attitude, obviously the government will immediately take stern measures against them. If this were not the case, employees, who are always defenseless, would be the losers or become the victims of the businessmen who hold the upper hand."

6804

CSO: 4213/13

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

NEW NAVAL VESSELS--The intent of equipping the Indonesian Navy with new warships is to enable it to fulfill its mission of defending the country's sovereignty and earning our people's respect. General M. Jusuf, minister of defense and security and concurrently commander of the Indonesian Armed Forces, made this statement on Wednesday [21 October] at the Dermaga Ujung in Surabaya during the official ceremony marking the entry of the three new ships into the Indonesian fleet. The first of these new ships is the KRI Dewantoro, a "destroyer escort" (DE) type training ship. In peacetime it will be used for basic and advanced training of Republic of Indonesia Armed Forces Academy naval cadets. The second ship, the KRI Teluk Sampit, is an LST which is capable of transporting some 200 landing troops, three helicopters, and 15 tanks. It is equipped with an elevator for moving equipment between the tank deck and the top deck. The third ship, the KRI Nanggala, is a new submarine that is capable of remaining submerged for a longer period of time. On that occasion General Jusuf pinned the new rank insignia on Navy Lt Col Kuncoro, commander of the KRI Dewantoro, Navy Lt Col Arman Aksyah, commander of the KRI Nanggala, and Navy Lt Col M. Sinaga, commander of the KRI Teluk Sampit. [Excerpts] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 22 Oct 81 p 1] 6804

1981 RICE PRODUCTION FORECAST--Rice production for 1981 has not reached the expected 22.8 million tons forecast, but it has been ascertained that it will be more than 22 million tons. According to data collected for 1981, rice production is "close" to the 22 million ton total. Eng Achmad Affandi, vice minister for food production affairs, made this clarification on Tuesday [27 October] during a meeting with the press in the Senior Officials Complex on Gatot Subroto Street in Jakarta. The clarification was made to adjust the estimate for food production which is still tentative. A figure of 22.8 million tons was issued earlier. The second forecast for 1981 rice production issued at the end of May was 21.6 million tons. The end July forecast was 21,888 million tons while the third forecast for the end of October has not yet been completed. "The third forecast, I know, will be more than 22 million tons not quite up to the earlier 22.8 million ton forecast. It certainly will be more than 22 million tons," Achmad remarked. The vice minister for food production affairs said self-sufficiency in food, particularly rice, in all regencies is very idealistic but is impossible to achieve since not all regencies have suitable land. Only the sea is there for some and so on. In regencies where there is a potential for self-sufficiency in food, it must be carried out. "So food self-sufficiency is impossible for all regencies to attain," Affandi said. He pointed out that no regency whether it has the

potential or not will be forced to move toward food self-sufficiency. A more important goal is to raise the income of farmers in each regency as well as their production. For instance, a regency may have a good potential for coffee crops. If coffee crops are replaced with corn crops whose yield is lower than that of coffee, it would not be good for the farmers involved. [Excerpt] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 28 Oct 81 p 12] 6804

CSO: 4213/13

SAVANNAKHET ELECTRICAL POWER GRID CONSTRUCTION FUNDING

Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 19 Aug 81 p 2

[Excerpts] Outoumphon is a town located 35 kilometers east of Savannakhet on Route 9. The people generally call it Seno.

But now in accordance with the 8th Plenum and especially to realize the government's first Five-Year Plan (1981-1985), the nation's economy is to be strengthened by bringing electrical power to industry and agriculture. Even though the country is poor and there are shortages, the party and state decided to allocate funds to the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and the Lao Electricity Company to plan the construction of a power line from Savannakhet to Outoumphon.

On 12 August at the office of the Electric Company of Savannakhet Province, officials of the central echelon of the electric company held a ceremony beginning the project to build a power line from Savannakhet to Outoumphon. Phandon Savannalat, the leader of this project, and Sikan Insisiangmai, the deputy project leader, reported that the project will begin in August and be completed in 1983. The first stage of this project will be to clear a path through the forest amounting to 966 hectares. Then this will be surveyed from Savannakhet to Outoumphon, a distance of 30 kilometers, including the distance to various villages which will be electrified. The location for the substation in Savannakhet will have to be filled with 5300 cubic meters of earth and 500 cubic meters of stone, gravel, and sand. A place will be built to house the construction equipment. 216 power line poles will be transported from Vientiane to Savannakhet. In the second stage of the Plan, beginning in 1982, more holes for the poles will be dug and poles cemented in, and the substation will be 100 percent completed. There will be transformers installed for 18 villages along the line, each of 22 kilovolts. Power lines will be brought to houses in the villages and in Outoumphon. Later in 1983, in the last stage of the plan, the substation will be tested and power will be transmitted to Outoumphon and its factories, offices, organizations, agricultural cooperatives and dwellings according to plan.

This construction project is budgeted at 1,365,386 dollars and 3 million kip.

The entire construction plan consists of three parts: construction of 10,000 kilowatt substation at Savannakhet, stretching the single circuit 22 [thousand] volt wire from kilometer marker 7 to Outoumphon, and installing the low voltage

transformers for the various villages along the route such as the saw mill at kilometer 11, That village, Natia village, Dongbang village, Khua Khoahat village, Nongkom village, and Outoumphon District.

When this is done the demand for low voltage electricity in homes, along roads, and in populated areas will amount to 1,795,284 kilowatt hours per year. Industry will require 2,748,040 kilowatt hours per year. Agriculture on the plains of Phonsin Canton will need 2,112,000 kilowatt hours per year to pump water from the Sompoi River to irrigate more than 4000 hectares of dry field rice.

8149

CSO: 4206/68

FOREIGN COMPANIES COMPETE FOR MACHINERY SALES

Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 18 Aug 81 pp 1, 2

[Text] In the morning of August 15 at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce Mr Nousai Sitthisai, the deputy Minister, presided at the opening of the bids of the different companies which were competing for sales of vehicles, such as trucks and boats, as well as machinery and rice mills to modernize the rice processing system in Vientiane, Savannakhat, and Champassak Provinces.

These provinces received a third loan from the World Bank of 13,400,000 dollars. This ceremony was attended by the representatives of the Finance Department for Industry and Commerce, the External Finance Department, the Office for Project Coordination, the Department for Currency Regulation, the Finance Ministry, the Foreign Trade Bank, the Lao Trading Company and of every department in the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. Representatives of the companies submitting bids, both domestic and foreign attended.

There were 23 companies submitting bids from Sweden, Thailand, Japan, the German Federal Republic, France, Hong Kong and India.

8149

CSO: 4206/68

THEFT OF BUDDHIST ARTIFACTS BLAMED ON THAILAND

Vientiane NOUM LAO in Lao 1 Aug 81 p 8

[Travel in Our Country' Column]

[Text] Dear young friends, you are the future of this nation we love so much.

The author of this article would like to guide you to see the historic places of our country. When I think about them it breaks my heart, and I don't know when things will get better.

In this article we will visit first the That Luong pagoda which is venerated by the people of Vientiane as well as the people throughout the country. Then we will go to other temples and historic sites such as: the That Louang temple, the Nong Bonh temple, the That Foun pagoda, the Dong Miang pagoda, the Ong Tu pagoda, the Inpeng pagoda, the Misai pagoda, the Chan pagoda, the Si Meuang pagoda and the Sisaket pagoda, the location of the emerald Buddha. We will start in the north and go south. We are going to so many places. We are going to these places to learn. It will be especially important for the young people to learn about our country.

Dear friends, what did you see in your travels? Well, many people might answer in different ways. As we entered the temple, we saw beautiful things and the bronze Buddha. When we entered the hall of the emerald Buddha, we saw many ancient things. When we look at the That Luong monument, we understand the bravery of the Lao in the past. Those things you see now, are what is left. How did this happen? History makes us see we had much more in the past and it was more beautiful. But these things were stolen and destroyed. Who? Who is it? Who was the thief? Who was the destroyer? It is a bitter history. The correct answer to the question is: Thai feudalists.

Thai feudalists took the Emerald Buddha, many great treasures, Vangviang, and King Anouvong and his family. They burned and killed like savages. Even though this happened many years ago, it caused great bitterness and resentment and will not be easily forgotten.

Dear friends, the problems mentioned in this article do not mean that we want revenge. Not at all. We still like the Thai people as always. But the Thai power holders are a different matter.

8149

CSO: 4206/68

PROBLEMS WITH BUSES NOTED, CRITICISMS VOICED OVER PRIVILEGE

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 6 Jul 81 pp 3, 4

["Conversations With the Editor" column: "Why Aren't the Buses Running Normally?"]

[Excerpts] [Question] 1. Why can we not correct the problem of regular bus transportation? When they lack workers, who are poorly paid with short rations, there is no transportation such as bicycles, motorcycles, or commuter vehicles. (Some units have no bus service to and from work. This makes it impossible for us to get to work: Do we get to work? What will the higher echelons do about this?

2. Why do so many ride in cars and have to walk although their work is similar (I'm talking about state vehicles)? My opinion is that each ordinary cadre should have a bicycle. I hope for some lucid explanation of the two problems.

[Answer] 1. In fact our state is the state for the good of all. The party is the party of the proletariat. "All the people who labor are the proletariat, the workers, the Lao laborers." Therefore, the LPRP is the party representing the working class who truly holds Marxist-Leninist doctrine. The party leads, the state administers, and the people are the masters. Do you understand the meaning in this? If you do, every problem or every action will be simple and clearly understood. Other problems such as the shortage of goods to meet the demand do not mean that the party-state is not concerned. The party and state are most concerned. The party and state are responsible for the destiny of the nation. Every resolution, every order which is issued, emphasize the improvement of the life and livelihood of all the people, the well-being and the progress of the nation and the people. We believe that every matter must proceed gradually, according to timeliness, conditions, and the labor that we create.

Enough said. As to your statement if the buses do not run, can the cadre be absent from work? If we think about this problem in detail we can see that the bus is not the element that makes one late or miss work. The bus is a convenience for all the people. But when we face shortages and cannot meet demand, as now, before anything else, we call on everyone to be patient and overcome every obstacle and difficulty. If we lack patience and a sense of struggle, the final result will be that we cannot succeed in anything. Think of the time we carried out the national democratic revolution for more than 30 years, passing through uncounted storms before we were able to liberate the whole country.

2. On the subject of vehicles, it is impossible to have buses for every cadre. They will be for the leadership cadre, not for the general cadre. Their work is the same but the responsibility differs. The leadership cadre have heavier responsibilities than we do, by the hundredfold. So whatever the conditions of work, it can be said that "Between the leaders and the led, identical treatment" is not rational, comrade.

9615

CSO: 4206/6

FOREIGN EXCHANGE SHORTAGES CAUSE DROP IN IMPORTS

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 13 Jul 81 p 2

["Conversations With the Editor" column: "Shortage of Drinks in State Stores"]

[Excerpts] [Question] Who do the state restaurants have a shortage of supplies, such as liquor, beer, and soft drinks? When I looked at the private sector stores, their shelves were full. They never suffer shortages. What is the reason? I hope you will answer to my satisfaction.

[Answer] I do not think your letter will be the last one on this. We hope in the future to receive your letters and talk with you comfortably. Speaking of VIENTIANE MAI's "Talking With the Editor," there are many things both good and bad. Some problems deal with people who do wrong. However, we believe that nothing presented on the pages of this newspaper is to serve the rights and benefits of individuals. Everything, great or small, serves the public interest.

1. The shortage of liquor, beer, and soft drinks in state restaurants at times is caused by the lack of supplies. For example, these plants get their raw materials from foreign countries, all imports, for their production. When there are not imports of raw materials, production stops temporarily. The problem is foreign exchange. We have little foreign exchange and there is great demand for it. We need urgently to buy spare parts, construction supplies, and other items, for example. With these reasons I hope you understand the problem of shortages.

That the private sector stores have goods to sell when state stores do not arises from minor reasons. The private sector store sells at too high a price and the customers are few. Therefore, they have enough whether state stores have a shortage or not. The second problem is the diversion of goods assigned to the state, which some people in state organizations selfishly sell outside. This means that the products instead of being in the state stores end up in the hands of the private sector. We will see this evil continue as long as some persons think more of themselves than of the public good.

In solving this problem we must first correct attitudes. Each person must be united in ideology, holding the public interest above his own. We must make everyone truly united in society, expand widely the rights of collective mastery. The administrative cadre especially must be increasingly conscious of collective mastery in society to emphasize the saying "We fear neither hunger nor want but only inadequate distribution." If the administrative cadre perform their duties, see to adequate distribution, then even if goods are scarce, the people who really need them will get them. Enough, we will talk another time. Thanks.

VIENTIANE BANK MAKES LOANS TO COOPS

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 9 Jul 81 pp 1, 4

[Text] This action is to implement the Council of Ministers Orders No 87 concerning the fulfillment of the 1981 rainy season production plan and to participate in the 1981 annual rice production motivation plan of the Vientiane City-Province to fulfill the plan.

In the first 6 months of 1981 the Vientiane City-Province Bank set up a staff of credit cadre to give encouragement and advice on methods of applying for loans from the bank. They travel regularly once a week to the agricultural cooperatives in various districts of Vientiane Province. They help especially all the agricultural cooperatives facing difficulties because they lack capital for opening up land and buying production equipment, water buffalo, supplies, and other necessities for production.

Along with sending out the credit officer cadre on a regular basis, the board of directors, with Silisai Vilaihong responsible for credit, the Vientiane Province Bank sent additional cadres to keep close contact with various agricultural cooperative units. The committee met and talked with all the agricultural cooperatives unit members and the people at each place about bank loans and production capital in their units to improve the yield and efficiency step by step. The committee explained in detail the principles and conditions for bank loans. All the cooperative members and farmers in the different locales understood the bank's credit policy.

After the work in this period the provincial bank authorized 16 agricultural loans to agricultural production sections in the amount of 3,033,570 kip. Loans to 13 agricultural cooperatives amounted to 1,242,390 kip. The short-term loans were to buy livestock, prepare the land, buy chemical fertilizer, pesticides, fuel oil, and other requisites for production. There were eight loans amounting to 482,930 kip and were long term to buy draft animals (water buffalo), clear land, and purchase machinery. There were five loans amounting to 759,460 kip to agricultural settlements and state production divisions. There were three loans amounting to 1,791,180 kip to buy livestock, feed, hire labor, buy fuel oil, and production supplies.

Besides the 3,033,570 kip authorized as loans to production sections directly, the provincial bank granted a 700,000 kip loan to the provincial irrigation corporation for basic construction such as small irrigation works at Ban Simmano, Hat Saifong District.

From the work of the first 6 months of 1981 it is seen that the bank helped solve difficult problems of the agricultural cooperatives, such as the clearing of land and obtaining draft animals, enabling agricultural cooperatives to buy 60 water buffalo. This was a major objective of the bank in encouraging the annual rice production plan this year to fulfill the plan. In addition, it helped all the agricultural cooperatives to meet the conditions and obtain capital for machinery, various technical means with intensive agriculture production expanding and improving day by day.

9615

CSO: 4206/6

FALL OF KIP IN RELATION TO BAHT, DOLLAR DISCUSSED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 10 Jul 81 p 2

["Conversations With the Editor" column: "The Dollar"]

[Excerpt] [Question] 1. Why does the American dollar retain its value and why is it used in all the countries of the world?

2. Some items in Store No 2 (Morning Market) are sold for dollars. Why is that?

3. Why do baht and the dollar have a higher value than our bank kip? How can we correct this? Will the editor please explain?

[Answer] 1. The dollar is the currency of the capitalists. At this time we do not wish to give a lengthy explanation. However, if we speak of things and language, there are no social classes because things depend on the production of the worker's labor. At the same time the ruling class takes the fruit of production to oppress the workers who give of their energy. This occurs in capitalist countries.

1. Because of the expansion of our economy, there is imbalance with the dollar. In comparison with the Britishpound, the dollar is falling also. The USSR ruble is the same in relation to the dollar. One dollar is exchanged only for 75 kopeks. "One hundred kopeks is one ruble." The dollar is widely used because the World Bank guarantees the value of the currency.

2. We need foreign exchange to buy necessities from abroad.

3. This does not differ from question one, but if we speak of the baht, nothing is certain. When the economy of Thailand is compared with other nations in the world, it is backward. That it can surpass our country because our economy now has not yet caught up with Thai economy. The way to improve the value of the kip is to strengthen the national economy, exporting domestic products to many countries, making the incoming revenue greater than the outgoing. This means we create a strong economy in a stable system, with exports exceeding imports. This is the solution and depends on every one of us Lao, who must build the national economy because we cannot rely on the government alone. The state only gives the direction. Those who perform the job are the Lao people, everyone of us, as a component in developing the national economy, doing the duty assigned to us.

9615

CSO: 4206/6

BRIEFS

CANADIAN LAO STUDENTS SUPPORT REGIME--After a thorough study of the situation and the political, economic, financial, social and cultural progress of the LPDR, through the SIANG PASASON, VIENTIANE MAI and foreign newspapers, the general conference of the Lao Students' Association in Canada unanimously passed this resolution: We praise and commend wholeheartedly Resolution 8 of the party Central Committee and the state Five-Year Plan for normalizing the living standards of the people. We oppose and strongly denounce the barbarous and senseless action of the rightist extremist reactionary Thai, who have continually attacked Lao territory under the direction of the Beijing great nation expansionists. We praise and commend wholeheartedly the soldiers defending the front lines on the border and the Lao guerrilla-militia soldiers, who demonstrate the role of heroes to protect the land and the security of all the people in the nation. We support the special kind of unity between the people of Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea, brothers bound in unity with the Soviet Union, all socialist nations, and progressive and justice-loving peoples in the world. We have confidence in the brilliant leadership of the LPRP. We have confidence in the ability of the government of the LPDR. We have confidence in the labor and self-reliance of all the Lao people. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 6 Jul 81 pp 1, 4] 9615

OFFICIAL IGNORANCE OF NATIONALITIES--["Conversations With the Editor" column: "What Are the 68 Nationalities?"] [Question] The LPDR has three large national groups and 68 minorities living in the same country. I searched every record and there were not 68 nationalities. There were only 51, which are: Lao Loum, 9 tribes; Lao Soung, 13 tribes; Lao Theung, 29 tribes. What are the 17 other tribes? What are their names? [Answer] It is a difficult problem. In their haste the departments concerned have not fully recorded all the tribes, nor do they know the names. So they have not published the details. In fact, a few of the tribes, if we make a detailed analysis, are still a difficult problem because almost every tribe has become almost extinct. [as published] In Sayaboury, there are reports that one tribe has been discovered which has never experienced the modern world. Furthermore, they do not know how many people there are or their language. So we say they are actually a tribe, but it is difficult to name them. Nevertheless, I believe that the Nationalities Committee ought to have all the names of the tribes, but I myself have no time to investigate. I am in your debt. Propose to Comrade Somvang in the City-Province Nationalities Committee that we record the names of the various tribes. Let me know; by telephone is all right. I hope he will cooperate because many people would like to know about this, too. [Excerpts] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 8 Jul 81 pp 2, 3] 0615

SARAVANE LIVESTOCK--In the first 6 months of 1981 livestock of different kinds, belonging to all the people in Khong Sedone District, Saravane Province, increased greatly: 198 head of buffalo, 203 head of cattle, and a great number of hogs, ducks, and chickens. At present throughout the district there are 12,543 water buffalo, 5,823 head of cattle, and thousands of hogs, ducks and chickens. [Excerpt] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 10 Jul 81 p A4] 9615

SAVANNAKHET DISTRICT BANKING--In the first 6 months of 1981 the cadre, soldiers, and people of various locales subordinate to Song Khon District, Savannakhet Province, became alert and voluntarily brought their savings for deposit in the district branch of the National Bank. The funds totaled 21,320 kip. This is part of the state capital to be circulated for use in the task of national development, to enrich and strengthen it. This action demonstrates the sense of responsibility toward the nation as the masters of society, along with obtaining benefits for their households. [Text] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 14 Jul 81 p A7] 9615

CHAMPASSAK ELECTRICAL WORK--During the first 6 months of 1981 the officials and the workers at the electric power department in Champassak Province strove to work hard and responsibly. In order to ensure sufficient electric power for lighting and production in this province, they produced 2,012,923 kilowatt hours of electricity and made 1,451,089 kilowatt hours available for use. They installed 140 new poles, 13,439 meters of new wire and brought electricity to 28 more houses. They made 652 repairs on electrical service to offices and houses. They also fixed 43 transformers and did many other things. [Text] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 19 Aug 81 pA4] 8149

CSO: 4206/68

JOINT CHINA-NEPAL IRRIGATION PROJECT

OW201933 Beijing XINHUA in English 1831 GMT 20 Nov 81

[Text] Kathmandu, November 20 (XINHUA)--Nepalese Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa today laid the foundation stone for the Pokhara water conservancy and irrigation project to be constructed by China and Nepal jointly in Pokhara, a city in central Nepal some 200 kilometres west of Kathmandu.

Over 2,000 people including Nepalese Minister of Water Resources Lal Bahadur Khadayat and local officials attended the ceremony. Chinese ambassador to Nepal Ma Muming, diplomats from the Chinese Embassy as well as Chinese experts working for the project were also present.

Speaking at the ceremony, Prime Minister Thapa said that on completion the project would generate enough power for the region.

He also expressed gratitude to China for the continued assistance to Nepal.

Chinese ambassador Ma Muming praised the traditional friendship and close cooperation between the peoples of China and Nepal. He said: "We are always of the view that assistance is mutual. We thank Nepal for her support to and cooperation with China in the past years."

Construction of the project comes under an agreement signed by China and Nepal in Kathmandu in 1977. The project is composed of two parts--an irrigation system including an 80-metre-long and 4-metre-high dam, a 7.8-kilometre-long canal, 26 branch canals and a number of aqueducts and sluices; and a small power station with a generating capacity of 1500 kw. Upon its completion, the project can provide irrigation for 750 hectares of farmland and electricity for Pokhara--a fast tourism-developing city in the country.

CSO: 4220/111

INJURIES RESULTING FROM AFGHAN AIR MINING DESCRIBED

BK231156 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 23 Nov 81

[Text] Touching scenes of human suffering and misery are witnessed at the agency headquarters hospital at Parachinar where 14 victims of the mines dropped by the Afghan helicopter gunships in the border areas near Parachinar are being treated. Radio Pakistan Peshawar representative who visited the hospital says they are all local people belonging to the border villages and 13 of them are with one foot amputated. The stomach of one was ripped apart.

The medical officer in charge told our representative that in all, 21 victims had reported at the hospital so far since the 17th of this month. Seven of them were discharged after they were provided first aid. Fourteen are under treatment in the hospital. He said that one amputee had been shifted to Peshawar at his own request. The medical officer said the wounds caused by the mines were taking a longer period in healing as compared to other injuries. He feared that the explosive contained some poisonous material.

Talking to our representative all the 13 amputees gave their account as to what had happened. They said that while walking about some colored object touched their foot and exploded violently blowing the foot away. The victim with stomach injuries ran for shelter during strafing when he fell on the ground and was hit by mine. Another victim with the bandaged hand said that he picked up an object taking it to be a plastic toy bird and was hit by it with an explosion injuring his fingers.

CSO: 4203/21

U.S. ARMS AID, LOAN RUN COUNTER TO PAKISTAN'S INTERESTS

Rawalpindi TAMEER in Urdu 22 Oct 81 pp 3, 50

[Article: "American Aid--Doubts and Misgivings"]

[Text] Pakistan has signed an agreement with the United States according to which it will provide a loan of \$3 billion to Pakistan over a period of 5 years at an interest rate of 14 percent. A major portion of the loan will be spent on the purchase of arms, and some will be spent for economic recovery. Action on this plan will begin from October, 1982. At that time, Pakistan will be supplied with F-16 planes on a cash-and-carry basis. According to the latest reports, some hitches have developed in the supply of these planes. But it is still believed that sooner or later the United States will supply these planes to Pakistan. Comments from different quarters have been issued on this matter. Any agreement has far-reaching effects for a country. Especially when the agreement is between a big and a small country, it becomes even more important. Usually the larger of the two countries benefits from the deal. Also, the breaking of the agreement and violation thereof is usually initiated by the larger country. Certain agreements are important for the sovereignty and protection of certain nations. For instance, Gambia had effected a treaty with a neighboring country, Senegal. As a result, Senegalese forces entered Gambia and annihilated the people who had taken over the government, and President Jawara, whose government had been overthrown, was restorer to power.

Similarly, Afghanistan has an agreement of friendship and cooperation with its neighbor, the Soviet Union. Under that agreement, Soviet forces are helping the Afghan forces deal with destructive elements as well as powers hostile to Afghanistan. If there had been no agreement between these two countries under certain articles of the United Nations, it is quite possible that the conspiracies of the imperialist countries would have succeeded, and the revisionist government of Sardar Daoud would have again been established in Afghanistan. In brief, agreements between two countries are usually of the utmost importance. They can by no means be taken lightly.

The economic and defense agreement that Pakistan has concluded with the United States is undoubtedly of great importance. Although it is Pakistan's position that the U.S.-Pakistan agreement is not against any country and Pakistan has a right to purchase arms for its defense, in today's fast-changing world, one simply cannot remain unconcerned about the situation in neighboring countries and on the international scene. The Government of Pakistan is certainly aware of the fact that

none of its neighbors--India, Afghanistan and Iran--welcomes the agreement. On the contrary, India and Afghanistan have expressed concern.

Although Iran's reaction has not yet been openly stated, the government in Iran, under the leadership of Khomeini, is pursuing policies of anti-imperialism, and it regards the United States of America as the biggest Satan ever. From this, it can easily be inferred what the reaction of Iran would be to this agreement.

Political changes are taking place rather rapidly on this globe. The feet of the United States are being uprooted everywhere. After the demise of the apparently unconquerable kingdom of the American agent Reza Shah Pahlevi, U.S. allies in the Middle East have been forced to desert. Recently, Kuwait cancelled a large arms order with the United States. Awareness of anti-Americanism is rising among the Arab people because of America's inordinate support of Israel, giving it a license to bully. It is a different matter that, contrary to the will and aspirations of people, the fate of Jordan is intertwined with that of the United States. But it will have to give up its friendship with the United States sooner or later. Because without that the Holy City cannot be liberated from the clutches of Zionism, the Palestinian people cannot gain their right to self-determination and Israel: aggression against Lebanon cannot be stopped. Certainly under these circumstances, those countries who are raising the slogan of liberation from American imperialism will not be happy with the new economic and military relationship between the United States and Pakistan.

Pakistan, because of its circumstances, cannot bear the wrath of any country, especially of its neighbors, let alone deliberately invite such wrath. Pakistan is not self-sufficient in many areas and it needs modern technology to develop its agriculture and industry. Pakistan needs to make strides, especially in the area of nuclear energy, because the electricity being generated through conventional means is not meeting urban needs, let alone serving the rural areas. For the rural electrification of the country, the establishment of nuclear power plants has become an important requirement.

[Several illegible lines]

Because of the \$3 billion agreement, say the commentators, an impression is being created in the world that Pakistan is drawing very close to the United States. The United States is a representative of the capitalist world, it has interests of its own and it has rivalry with the Soviet Union in every field. It is conducting a campaign to defile the name of the Soviet Union in the world by raising the issue of Afghanistan. Under these circumstances of Pakistan's increasing friendship with the United States, the Soviet Union will be forced to alter its relations with Pakistan. The Soviet Union has transferred to us modern technology for the establishment of Karachi steel mills and a thermal power station that, in spite of our military and economic ties, we could not get from the United States. The Soviet Union is a big country and is regarded as a superpower. To make friends with a power that is thousands of miles away and to alienate the one next door does not stand to reason. It is as clear as day that the United States never comes to the aid and comfort of its friends. In the past, rather than Pakistan because of the defense agreement in the 1965 war, the United States imposed an arms embargo on Pakistan and refused even to supply spare parts. We also had a bitter experience regarding that friendship in the 1971 war, when the United States turned into a

silent spectator. Except for providing for the legitimate or illegitimate needs of Israel, the United States has no record of fulfilling the exigencies of friendship. Therefore, the Pakistani people have no hope that the United States will play an important role in strengthening Pakistan economically or militarily. In fact, it is the United States that is preventing Pakistan from progressing in the nuclear energy field and is conducting a campaign of publicizing the so-called "Islamic bomb." On the other hand, the Soviet Union has been offering modern technology to Pakistan for generating electricity through nuclear energy and for the establishment of industries. And this offer still stands, even today.

Under these circumstances, we can easily guess with which power our friendship can be a source of difficulties. The rulers of Pakistan say that an aid agreement with the United States is crucial to national defense. Undoubtedly, nobody can quarrel with whatever steps must be taken for the national defense. But it is essential to understand that arms alone are not a guarantee of integrity and survival in today's world. If arms alone determined the defense of a country, then not a single small country would remain in existence. Nepal is a small country that has a small number of arms, and it borders a much larger country equipped with modern weapons, like India. But its integrity and sovereignty have not been threatened so far.

The borders of France touch many small countries whose combined armed forces and arms do not equal those of France. But these countries are free and sovereign. The borders of Turkey touch the Soviet Union. But Turkey faces no danger from the Soviet Union. Similar examples of many countries can be cited--countries that are far weaker than their neighbors and that not only exist but are progressing. Therefore, the stockpiling of arms cannot guarantee the integrity of a country. But it needs a good policy. You should not turn one country into an enemy by making another a friend. In nonalignment, the policy of noninterference with others' internal affairs and of peaceful coexistence is stressed. The foreign minister, Mr Agha Shahi, has himself said that the Soviet Union has given assurances that Pakistan will have no misunderstanding with the Soviet Union in regard to its independence, regional integrity and stability. As far as Afghanistan is concerned, it is the general consensus that it will take years for it to strengthen its revolution and build a new culture. Therefore, the question of any military action from Afghanistan simply does not arise. Besides, the Government of Afghanistan is trying to build better relations with Pakistan.

With Iran, too, relations have always been good, and they will continue to improve in the time to come. Therefore, there is no danger to the independence, integrity and stability of Pakistan. Therefore, the need for it to buy weapons by borrowing at the rate of 14 percent is greatly limited. Still the Reagan government wants to supply it with weapons. So it should be borne in mind whether this is in the interest of Pakistan. It certainly is in the interest of the United States, and the United States, in its own self-interest, sacrifices other countries.

9859

CSO: 4203/14

PRESIDENT SPEAKS OF ESTABLISHING ISLAMIC ORDER

Lahore CHATAN in Urdu 2 Nov 81 p 5

[Editorial: How Much Longer Do We Have To Suffer the Present State of Affairs?]

[Text] The President has said once again that "I will carry on my duties until Islamic order is established in the country. And unless every Pakistani becomes a good Muslim individually, a collective Islamic order is not possible." These words were uttered by the president 27 October in Char Sida before a gathering of people from all walks of life. Possibly he may have used different words, but the above words carry his thought.

We want the establishment of Islamic order wholeheartedly and we used to demand it, even when doing so invited the wrath of the authorities. Whenever the President said anything about the establishment of Islamic order we seconded and supported it for the simple reason that the establishment of Islamic order is our mission. But we have complained time and again about the modus operandi and the pace of the establishment of Islamic order. The government that establishes Islamic order in the true sense in our country will be popular among the people and will create a venerable place for itself in history. Now the question of when the reality of Islamic order will come to pass is on the lips of all and sundry.

In this age of speed a period of 4 years is not short by any means. If there is firm determination and true motivation, a lot can be done in a period of 4 years.

There has been an increase--not a decrease--in irregularities and crime. Bribery, nepotism and favoritism is as usual. The president himself has conceded that everybody is corrupt and nothing gets done without bribes. The truth is that nothing has been done by way of reforms. Under such conditions, how will each Pakistani become a true Muslim?

Docile masses follow their rulers sheepishly. To people, the rulers are those officers of the government with whom they have to deal in their day-to-day affairs. Bribery and the rate of irregularities in official and semi-official institutions, instead of decreasing, are rising. Inflation has made people's lives very difficult. Such is the state of law and order that people cannot sleep safely in their homes. Can every Pakistani become a good Muslim in such a climate?

Pronouncements and promises cannot fill anybody's stomach. If the sermons were effective, then corruption would have been nonexistent in our country. It is in the interest of the government to find out what people are thinking. The things that have made people's lives miserable are inflation, irregularities and crime.

Elements unfriendly to Islam are very cleverly propagating the notion that the miseries of the people are in reality "blessings of Islam." The question is, if the dissatisfaction exceeds reasonable limits, then what consequences will follow? The internal and external enemies of Pakistan are lying in wait to profit from any decline in dissatisfaction that may occur. The solution of the problem is not censorship but action. Islam alleviates the miseries of people. It is a message of death for murderers, hoodlums, the wicked, blackmarketeers, bribers and incompetents. If Islam is established, people will begin to breathe easier. They will be rid of their worries. To continue the state of uncertainty and restlessness and talk about continuing to carry out routine responsibilities is an activity that no longer has public support. People want a solution to their problems. If they had peace and tranquility, they would not want anything more.

9859

CSO: 4203/15

PRESIDENT CALLED ON TO END INDISCRIMINATORY CENSORSHIP

Lahore CHATAN in Urdu 2 Nov 81 pp 6-9

[Text] There was a meeting in the Jinnah Hall of Lahore. From Islamabad came Minister of Information Raja Zafar-ul-Haq to attend. The meeting was held to commemorate the Upheaval. The speakers created a big racket, touched upon the issues, made caustic remarks on the slowness of the establishment of Islamic order and made fiery speeches on the maladies of society. It is beside the point that all these remarks, all those demands and so forth resounded in the auditorium--but in reality they did not sink into the hearts and minds of the listeners. Here speakers say what they wish and the listeners listen to what they want. If they had an effect--if they found a place in our hearts and minds--then our destinies would change.

The minister of information said in his speech: "Inflation is a cancer." The audience, in one voice and spontaneously retorted: "Sir, it is censorship, it is censorship--not cancer." Then Jinnah Hall, which is named after the founder of Pakistan, reverberated with the slogan: "Curse, curse, censorship is a big curse." The minister, to silence the audience, in the style of a parliamentarian, said that he also agreed that censorship was a curse.

We felt that it was not the voice of the nation, not the voice of a minister, not the voice of the people sitting in Jinnah Hall, but the voice of Jinnah himself. It was the voice of our great leader. It was the voice of the founder of Pakistan.

On the occasion of this tumultuous meeting held on the anniversary of the Upheaval, our great leader appeared to me arriving, speaking--he actually came to the work of our sense, gave us guidance, and then departed.

I mention this only in passing. Our great leader comes to our minds as a fleeting thought. It happens every year. If the memory of our great leader were a permanent part of our psyche, then the shape of the country would be as he envisioned it. When our people became divided, the thoughts of our national leaders became divided, the rulers became divided, and in the final analysis, for the purposes of ruling the country they became divided as well.

We were talking about the censorship that is in force in Pakistan. It is the longest censorship in the history of the subcontinent. Initially, it was supposed to have been enforced for a very short period. But, traditionally, there has always been a discrepancy between saying and doing here. Now this discrepancy has become longer than the distance between heaven and earth.

From day one of the enforcement it has been said that the censorship is temporary. Times changed, people changed, the country changed, along with the country the rulers changed, the words of the rulers changed and the meanings of the words changed. Today the name of stalling is delay, the name of temporary is permanent, the name of permanent is temporary and the name of lie is truth.

Hey, noble rulers, you say that you wish to establish Islam--then tell us, with God as your witness, in which Koran it is written that Islam will be established through the force of censorship? Islam is truth and whenever it is enforced, it will be enforced with righteousness. True, you are righteous people, you are pious rulers, you're the embodiment of justice, you're the protectors of the country--then why don't you do what you say?

A year and a half ago you said that censorship would be terminated, newspapers would be free and there would be freedom of expression. Then you started saying that all this would take place "gradually." What is this "gradually?" There is a limit to doing things "gradually." This world will end gradually; the day of judgment will come gradually; prior to the day of judgment there will be rulers who will be precursors of that day. Tell us, exactly, what is going to be the duration of the censorship? Is it gradually going to go away as doomsday will gradually creep up on us?

Sometimes you say that morality will be the code of conduct for the journalists. Sometimes you're seen pondering over the code of conduct and sometimes you say that the code of conduct is for the criminals, not for the journalists. Now it is not clear what to believe.

We do not address you because we are your enemies. Your enemies are those who do not express their viewpoint to you. Becoming mute devils, they conspire underground against you. We consider conspiracy against the existing administration and the effective power in control as conspiracy against our nation. If those people who are the very caretakers of the country become victimized by this conspiracy, then it will be a disaster for our people and the country.

Similarly, it is our view that the breaking of promises will make the people disappointed in you. They will not trust you or follow you. We want the people to trust you, listen to you, believe in your promises, regard you as the embodiment of virtue and obey your commands willingly. We want people to pay you not just lip service but sincere respect.

As far as conspiracies are concerned, they are for enemies and traitors. We were against them yesterday and are against them today. Censorship is not the way to rid the country of the enemies of the nation. In this way, even your supporters will turn against you. And the world, regarding your government as weak, will not even speak to you, because only weak governments erect a wall of censorship around themselves. Only weak and cowardly rulers regard this wall as the wall of Alexander. But this wall is usually weaker than glass. A few splashes from a pen can crash it to the ground. By the grace of God, you're the soldier of Islam, you're the commander of the armed forces, you're the mainstay of this nation, you're the protector of the geographical boundaries of this country--and your heart should be big.

Instead of imposing restrictions on the newspapers, you should alleviate those causes that, by defacing the truth, present a distorted picture of events to you.

In today's newspapers, the president was quoted as saying in a speech that a handful of destructive elements of the country will be brought under control. Now we humbly ask him (and the president will forgive our boldness, in the tradition of Islamic caliphs) what purpose censorship can serve if it is imposed upon those frightened by a handful of destructive elements? Remove the restrictions imposed on the newspapers and then see for yourself how people get even with this handful of destructive jackasses and how quickly they become repentent of mischief-making.

The press of this country is asking you not for a handout but for its right. Freedom of expression is everybody's birthright and to suppress or take it away is tantamount to usurpation of divine right. By all means use your own rights, but do not usurp divine rights. Keep in mind always that the freedom provided by God must exceed the duration of censorship.

True, freedom of expression should have some limitations. Exceeding the limits is improper. People who write against Islam, the country and established laws, should have their hands chopped off. They should be hanged in public. But to put fetters on the pens and tongues of those who are the patriots and soldiers of Islam (out of fear of the mischief of traitors and the enemies of Islam) is a revolt against Islamic, moral and democratic traditions.

If the censorship were instituted to foil the plans of the enemies of Islam and the country, then it would be understandable, but as things stand now, the curse of censorship is on the entire country. The censors themselves are a victim of this curse. Their days and nights pass in massacring the writings of the journalists. They are too busy curtailing the editorials of the newspapers and magazines, defacing feature articles, chopping off headlines and destroying the efforts of the journalists. Now, let us be fair--all the journalists of this country are not traitors, dishonest time-servers, stupid, immoral and enemies of the country.

Do your actions not infer that the press is against you and the whole nation is against you? Therefore, have you decided to shut the mouths of everyone?

If that is not the case, and we are certain that it is not the case, then what is the reason for a long-term censorship, without exception, on freedom of expression?

It is our view that you should take another look at your decision. We think that you have not had much time to ponder this decision or you would never have made such a decision. You will not have much difficulty in changing your decision, though you may have taken it.

Change this decision and do it soon. You, the entire nation and the whole world regards censorship as a curse. Imposing this curse on the entire nation is not a good decision.

BRIEFS

NAVAL OFFICERS MEET--Rear Admiral (Salim-al-Dros Oglu) leader of the visiting Turkish naval delegation today separately called on the commander. Karachi, Rear Admiral T. K. Khan and the commander of Pakistan Fleet Rear Admiral (Iftekhhar A. Sirohi) in Karachi. He discussed with them matters of common interest. Later, the leader of the Turkish team visited various naval establishments. [Text] [BK261033 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 25 Nov 81]

QUETTA AIRPORT INAUGURATED--The runway of the Quetta airport, recarpeted and strengthened at a cost of about 30 million rupees to facilitate the landing of airbus and Boeing aircraft, was inaugurated by Defense Minister Mir Ali Ahmad Talpur today. Speaking on the occasion he said the present government is paying topmost attention to modernize the transport and communication system in the country. He said the government is modernizing air facilities at Pasni, Gavatar, Jiwani, Turbat and Urmara so that the interior of Baluchistan is opened up for better trade and traffic. Plans have also been prepared for the development of better airport facilities at Khuzdar, Sibi and (?Zhob). The minister announced a cash award of 100,000 rupees for the staff associated with the completion of the runway in a record period of 4 months. Later, the defense minister told newsmen that by buying a small quantity of military hardware Pakistan is simply exercising its fundamental right for safeguarding its ideological and geographical frontiers. About the airspace violation, he said Pakistan had taken a very serious note of it. About Pakistan's offer to India for a no war pact, the defense minister said it is in the Indian Government's interest to accept the offer as it would save India from spending billions of rupees on its arms buildup to the detriment of its own people. Referring to the Kashmir issue, he pointed out it had to be solved within the framework of the Simla agreement. [Text] [BK251218 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 25 Nov 81]

AMBASSADOR TO SEYCHELLES--The government has appointed Pakistan's ambassador in Kenya, N. A. Ashraf, concurrent as ambassador to the Republic of Seychelles. [Text] [BK240603 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 21 Nov 81 BK]

PRISONERS APPEAL FOR BAIL--Members of Al-Zulfiqar organization and those charged with destructive activities who are in prison have applied in Military Court No 27 for bail. The court will hold a hearing on these petitions. Abdul Hamid of Bhakar, who was arrested under Martial Law Codes 31, 4, 18, 13, 8 and 33, said in his application that he was arrested 15 March and since he suffers from tuberculosis, he should be released on bail. Zafar Husain Zaidi, accused from Lahore who was arrested under Martial Law Codes 24, 48, 33 and 13, asked in his application that he be released on bail since all of his companions have been released on bail. Mohammed Hasan, owner of a printing press who was arrested 28 March for printing and distributing objectionable pamphlets, has also applied for bail. Mohammed Nawaz Rabani, who was arrested 28 March, is charged with distributing objectionable pamphlets. Manzur Ahmed, Mohammed Yakub, Shoukat Ali and Mohammed Amin Bhatti, who were arrested by Model Town Police under Martial Law Codes 6, 33 and 13, have also applied for release on bail. [Text] [Rawalpindi TAMEER in Urdu 21 Oct 81 p 2] 9859

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